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January 16, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Ste. 1200
Washington, DC 20530

VIA FACSIMILE
(202) 616-9937

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The settlement in the case of US v. Microsoft should be accepted and ratified as soon as possible. This letter is being written to the courts to not only to ask you to accept the settlement—but to do so as quickly as possible.

The Microsoft case has been an awful constraint on the national economy. I am sure the courts have heard this argument articulated by many an academic who understands the economy better than I. But, let me assure the courts, the argument is much more than academic. Small business is feeling this case in a very real way.

From what I understand, the settlement in this case will become law as soon as it is accepted by the courts. Therefore, the sooner you can ratify the settlement, the better. Business affected by the case will see positive change right away (as opposed to the next fiscal year or some business related time period). Essentially, I am asking the courts to accept the settlement and work to expeditiously set the wheels in motion for the settlement to be executed. Doing this will allow businesses to move forward again.

Sincerely,

Tom Hinrichs
President